

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/736,317

Applicant(s)

NOSE, MASAKI

Examiner

Art Unit

James A. Thompson

2624

.. The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-->

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 24 November 2004 and 15 December 2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. The drawings filed on 24 November 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
 Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
 of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
 Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____

Art Unit: 2624

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. The application has been amended as follows:

Change the title from "Image Processing Method, Image Processor, and Storage Medium Thereof" to "Method, Processor and Program for Error Diffusion Modified with AM-FM Sine Wave".

Art Unit: 2624

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 9, lines 10-12, filed 24 November 2004, with respect to the drawings have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the drawings listed in item 2 of the previous office action, dated 22 July 2004, have been withdrawn.
2. Applicant's arguments, see page 9, lines 14-16, filed 24 November 2004, with respect to the abstract have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the abstract listed in item 3 of said previous office action have been withdrawn.
3. Applicant's arguments, see page 9, lines 18-20, filed 24 November 2004, with respect to the specification have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the specification listed in item 4 of said previous office action have been withdrawn.
4. Applicant's arguments, see page 10, lines 1-3, filed 24 November 2004, with respect to the objections to the claims have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections to the claims listed in items 5 and 6 of said previous office action have been withdrawn.
5. Applicant's arguments, see page 10, lines 5-7, filed 24 November 2004, with respect to the rejections of claims 6-11 under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph, have been fully considered and

Art Unit: 2624

are persuasive. The rejections of claims 6-11 under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph listed in items 7-9 of said previous office action have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-11 patentably distinguish over the prior art for reasons already discussed in detail in item 12 of said previous office action. Further, no additional prior art that anticipates or renders obvious claims 1-11 has been found in the interim between said previous office action and the present office action. Therefore, since all formal matter objections, claim objections, and rejections under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph have been adequately addressed, the application is now in condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is 571-272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be

Art Unit: 2624

reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James A. Thompson
Examiner
Art Unit 2624

JAT
03 May 2005



THOMAS D.
~~ROBERT~~ LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER